

Amendment No. 2 to SB2259

Gresham
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2259

House Bill No. 2114*

by deleting the amendatory language of Section 8 and substituting instead:

(11) Students with documented learning disabilities or students whose programs of study require fewer than thirty (30) semester hours in a three-consecutive-semester period shall be exempt from the thirty-completed-hour requirement established in subdivision (c)(6);

(12) A student who is unable to complete thirty (30) semester hours in a three-consecutive-semester period due to academic or other extenuating circumstances may appeal the reduction of the award as outlined under TSAC rule; and

(13) TSAC is authorized to promulgate rules to establish deadlines for applications and appeal procedures for the denial, revocation, reduction, or restoration of the scholarship, to address the use of early postsecondary opportunities for credit towards completed hour requirements, and to otherwise effectuate the purposes of this part. The rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting Section 10 and substituting instead:

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

() "Completed" means, for purposes of determining a Tennessee HOPE scholarship award amount, any hours awarded to a student by a postsecondary institution upon finishing an academic course and receiving a grade, or hours awarded through early postsecondary opportunities;

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() "Early postsecondary opportunities" means a course or exam aligned to postsecondary standards that gives students an opportunity to obtain postsecondary credit while enrolled in high school or a Tennessee home school program. Such courses may include Advanced Placement, Cambridge, International Baccalaureate, dual credit, dual enrollment, college level examination program, or industry certification;

() "Three-consecutive-semester period" means three (3) semesters in a twelve-month period beginning in the semester of initial enrollment, or the equivalent if the institution is on a system other than a semester system, and excluding semesters in which a student qualifies for an approved leave of absence or participates in an internship or cooperative education program applicable to the student's program of study;

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting Section 13 and substituting instead:

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-912(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(b) Tennessee HOPE scholarship students may enroll as full-time students or part-time students at an eligible postsecondary institution. A student who enrolls as a full-time student at the beginning of a semester may not drop to part-time status in that semester, unless the student requests, and the institution approves, part-time status based on documented medical or personal grounds.

(c) TSAC shall promulgate rules in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5, to establish appeal procedures for the revocation, reduction, or restoration of the scholarship when a student:

(1) Changes from full-time to part-time and from part-time to less than part-time status based on documented medical or personal grounds;

(2) Is unable to complete thirty (30) semester hours in a three-consecutive-semester period due to academic or other extenuating circumstances; and

(3) Uses early postsecondary opportunities for credit towards semester hour requirements.

AND FURTHER AMEND by adding the following language at the end of subdivision (d)(1) of Section 14:

Students with documented learning disabilities or students whose program of study requires fewer than thirty (30) semester hours in a three-consecutive-semester period shall be exempt from the thirty-completed-hour requirement.